

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 20440

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MMOL, UR, US
SUBJECT: INCIDENTS AT SEA

REF: STATE 213399

1. DURING CALL AT MFA TO DELIVER NOTES ON MILITARY MANEUVERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTTEL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR MFA USA DIVISION SOKOLOV HANDED EMBASSY OFFICERS A DRAFT NOTE ON SUBJECT OF INCIDENTS AT SEA. ACCORDING TO SOKOLOV, INCIDENT AT SEA DISCUSSIONS HELD IN MOSCOW JUNE-JULY OF THIS YEAR INCLUDED A DISCUSSION OF THE NEED TO BRING BILATERAL US-SOVIET INCIDENT AT SEA AGREEMENT INTO ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW. AS A RESULT, SOKOLOV SAID, THE SOVIETS ARE PRESENTING DRAFT NOTE WHICH THEY HOPE WILL SERVE AS A BASIS FOR A FORMAL EXCHANGE OF NOTES ON THE SUBJECT.

2. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF DRAFT NOTE FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT. DRAFT. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC HAS THE HONOR TO
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INFORM THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OF THE FOLLOWING.

DURING CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE DELEGATIONS OF THE USSR AND THE USA, CARRIED OUT FROM MAY 29 TO JUNE 6, 1978 IN MOSCOW, WHICH CONSIDERED PUTTING INTO PRACTICE THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON THE AVOIDANCE OF INCIDENTS AT SEA AND AIRSPACE ABOVE THE SEA OF MAY 25, 1972, A RECOMMENDATION WAS ACCEPTED TO FORMALIZE THE AGREEMENTS REACHED, THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, BY CHANGING REFERENCES IN THE AGREEMENT TO RULES FOR PREVENTING NAVAL COLLISIONS AT SEA (PPSS) OF 1960, SO THAT THEY WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL RULES FOR PREVENTION OF NAVAL COLLISIONS AT SEA OF 1972 (MPPSS-72), WHICH REPLACED AND ANNULLED THE RULES FOR PREVENTING NAVAL COLLISIONS AT SEA (PPSS) OF 1960. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS RECOMMENDATION, THE FOLLOWING CHANGES SHOULD BE MADE IN THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT OF 25 MAY 1975.

(1) IN ARTICLE II, SUBSTITUTE THE WORDS, "INTERNATIONAL RULES FOR PREVENTING NAVAL COLLISIONS AT SEA OF 1972 (MPPSS-72)" FOR THE WORDS "RULES FOR PREVENTING NAVAL COLLISIONS AT SEA (PPSS)."

(2) SUBSTITUTE IN PARAS 1, 2, 4, AND 5, ARTICLE III, THE WORD "MPPSS-72" FOR THE WORD "PPSS."

(3) SUBSTITUTE IN PARA 8, ARTICLE III, THE WORDS "IN REGULATION 3(G) MPPSS-72," FOR IN "REGULATION 4(C) PPSS." THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS PROPOSES THAT THE PRESENT NOTE, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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THE REPLY OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BE CONSIDERED AS AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE SOVIET AND AMERICAN SIDES WITH REGARD TO QUESTION REFERRED TO ABOVE WHICH MAKES THE APPROPRIATE CHANGES IN THE ABOVE NOTED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE USSR AND USA OF MAY 25, 1972. END TEXT.

3. RUSSIAN LANGUAGE TEXT BEING POUCHED TO EUR/SOV. TOON

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